Amendments to the Claims:

1-9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented) A web server comprising software modules, wherein at least one first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality and a second mechanism for accessing a real-time operating system.

11. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 10, wherein the web server comprises a connection to a communications network.

12. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 11, wherein the communications network is the Internet.

13. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 10, wherein internet protocols are provided for communication between the software modules and for communication between the software modules and components outside the web server.

14. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 11, wherein internet protocols are provided for communication between the software modules and for communication between the software modules and components outside the web server.

15. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 10, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

16. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 11, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

17. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 13, wherein the web server is adapted for configuring and administrating the software modules.

18. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 10, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

19. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 11, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

20. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 13, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

21. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 15, wherein the first software module comprises a connection with an industrial automation system.

22. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 10, wherein the web server comprises a connection to the internet using a firewall.

23. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 11, wherein the web server comprises a connection to the internet using a firewall.

24. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 13, wherein the web server comprises a connection to the internet using a firewall.

25. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 10, wherein the web server is connected by a communications network to a web browser as an operating and monitoring system.

26. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 11, wherein the web server is connected by a communications network to a web browser as an operating and monitoring system.

27. (previously presented) The web server according to Claim 13, wherein the web server is connected by a communications network to a web browser as an operating and monitoring system.

28. (currently amended) An automation system comprising a web server, wherein the web server comprises ~~comprising~~ software modules, wherein a first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality and a second mechanism for accessing a real-time operating system.

29. (previously presented) A computer program product comprising a web server comprising software modules, wherein a first software module comprises a first mechanism for implementing an automation functionality and a second mechanism for accessing a real-time operating system.